

(b) if so, the details of the agendas discussed and decisions taken;

(c) the details of action plan worked out for the current year with State-wise allocations of funds approved for release to the States, for the current year-under the Central schemes, scheme-wise; and

(d) details of the major projects under implementation in Maharashtra and the targets set for each of them ?

**THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) :** (a) Yes, Sir. A conference of State/UT Ministers of Youth Affairs & Sports was held on 12th February, 1997 at New Delhi in which the Draft New National Sports Policy was also discussed.

(b) Besides the Draft New National Sports Policy, other agenda items on the sports side which were discussed in the Conference are as follows :-

- (i) Role of the State Governments, vis-a-vis, the Central Government in promotion of Sports and games.
- (ii) Bringing Sports on the Concurrent List of the Constitution.
- (iii) Rural Sports Programme.
- (iv) Integration of Physical Education and Sports with School Curriculum.
- (v) Introducing school level competitions at block, district, State and National levels.
- (vi) Establishment of an All India Council of Physical Education.
- (vii) Holding of National Games.

The views of State/UT Governments were invited on the above issues, based on which steps have been initiated to finalize the New National Sports Policy.

(c) Financial assistance is given to States/UTs under the scheme for creation of sports infrastructure against proposals, complete in all respect, received from them. No State-wise allocation is presently worked out. The current years total revised allocation under the scheme is Rs. 6.35 cr. which has been fully utilised.

(d) No major project has been approved in Maharashtra during the current year. However, out of a total grant of Rs. 20 lakh approved, in principle, during 1993-94 under the scheme of creation of sports infrastructure, an amount of Rs. 18 lakh has been released as first instalment during the current year towards construction of an Indoor Stadium for Badminton by Shri Hanuman Vyayam Prasarak Mandal at Amravati in Maharashtra.

#### **Border Dispute between India and China**

1501. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any border dispute between India

and China;

(b) if so, since when it is pending and remained unsolved; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to solve this dispute ?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) :** (a) to (c) There are outstanding issues with regard to the India-China boundary question which have been under discussion between the two Governments since the 1950.

These issues are being discussed by the two countries in the Joint Working Group, established after the visit of Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi in December 1988, and the Expert Group, set up subsequent to the visit of Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao in September 1993. The Joint Working Group has met nine times and the Expert Group has met four times.

While reiterating the determination to resolve the boundary question in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner, the two sides have agreed, in the interim, on concrete measures to ensure that peace and tranquility is effectively maintained in the border areas.

#### **Persons of Indian Origin in Hong Kong**

1502. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons of Indian origin residing in Hong Kong at present;

(b) the number of those who are Indian citizens; and

(c) the number of persons in Hong Kong who have applied for Indian citizenship ?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) :** (a) There are approximately 28,000 persons of Indian origin residing in Hong Kong at present.

(b) Out of these, 22,000 persons are Indian nationals holding Indian passports.

(c) It has been the consistent position of the Government of India that the British Government has basic responsibility towards BDTC and BN(O) passport holders and that it should take the necessary steps to safeguard the status of these persons as British citizens. The British Government has announced on 4.2.1997 that solely British ethnic minorities residing in Hong Kong could apply for registration as British citizens, giving them right of abode in the United Kingdom, after 30th June, 1997. The number of people who have applied for Indian citizenship is 5 in 1996 and 2 in 1997.

#### **Satellite Link to Calicut Passport Office**

1503. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to link the Calicut Passport Office with satellite;

(b) If so, the details thereof indicating the benefit likely to be derived as a result thereof; .

(c) the number of applicants in the waiting list for securing passport at the Calicut Passport Office and

(d) the time by which their applications are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) A proposal is under consideration.

(b) A comprehensive computerisation proposal presently under consideration entails not only the linking of Calicut through satellite, but the linking of all similar passport offices throughout India with the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. This would also generate greater interconnectivity between all Passport Offices. Presently, each Passport Office checks each new application against its own records. Once an all-India data base is generated, each fresh application will be checked on an all-India basis, promptly without error and in a tamper proof manner. This is expected to greatly minimise misuse and enhance efficiency.

(c) As on 15.2.97, 21,175 applications were pending at Passport Office, Calicut. Of these, 9029 applications were pending for over one month.

(d) On an average, the Passport Office, Calicut issues Passports within 6 weeks of receipt of an application. Higher than normal pendency with the Calicut Office has been largely due to the detection of a substantial number of forged documents, submitted with applications.

[Translation]

#### Literacy Campaign in Madhya Pradesh

1504. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the literacy campaign alongwith the names of districts of Madhya Pradesh in which this campaign has started during the last two years including the estimated cost of this campaign and the total amount spent on it so far;

(b) whether any evaluation has been undertaken of the work done so far and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether teachers of primary schools have been engaged to educate the adults resulting in disruption of studies of the school children;

(d) If so, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken in this regard; and

(e) the distribution of the expenditure being incurred on literacy campaign between Union and State Government and the time by which this campaign is likely to be concluded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The objective of the literacy campaign is to enable the learners to acquire functional literacy which means ability to :

- (i) Read and write simple words and sentences;
- (ii) Read and write simple letters and articles;
- (iii) Compute simple problems involving addition, subtraction, division and multiplication ; and
- (iv) Increase awareness of National and important issues such as the environment., population, gender, health, sanitation etc.

A statement giving this names of Districts of Madhya Pradesh in which literacy campaigns have been launched in the last two years alongwith grants released to each District is enclosed.

(b) the campaigns are in different stages of implementation and external evaluation will be conducted by Social Sciences Institute of National repute at the end of the Total Literacy Campaign.

(c) and (d) Under the Total Literacy Campaigns volunteers are mobilised from all Sections of Society to undertake the teaching.

(e) the expenditure on literacy campaign is shared between the Union and State Government in the ratio of 4:1 in respect of Tribal areas and in the ratio of 2:1 in general areas. The campaigns are usually completed in 18 to 24 months.

#### Statement

Sl.No.	District Name	Grants released during last 2 years (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Balaghat	77.53
2.	Betul	80.25
3.	Bhind	20.00
4.	Bilaspur	323.00
5.	Bhopal	40.00
6.	Bastar	302.73
7.	Damoh	50.53
8.	Guna	82.50
9.	Hoshangabad	67.45
10.	Jhabua	107.17
11.	Mandla	124.61
12.	Mansour	80.26
13.	Morena	50.00
14.	Raipur	140.00
15.	Raisen	92.06
16.	Rajnandgaon	60.00
17.	Rewa	66.25
18.	Sagar	64.43
19.	Sihore	68.05
20.	Seoni	30.00
21.	Shahdole	208.22
22.	Shivpuri	71.56
23.	Surguja	179.15
24.	Ujjain	20.00